



**PRESS RELEASE**  
*Office of the United States Attorney  
Middle District of Florida*

**PAUL I. PEREZ**  
**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

400 North Tampa Street  
Suite 3200  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
813/274-6000  
813/274-6300 (Fax)

300 North Hogan Street,  
Suite 700  
Jacksonville, Florida 32201  
904/301-6300  
904/301-6310 (Fax)

80 North Hughey Avenue,  
Room 201  
Orlando, Florida 32801  
407/648-7500  
407/648-7643 (Fax)

2110 First Street,  
Suite 3-137  
Fort Myers, Florida 33901  
239/461-2200  
239/461-2219 (fax)

**Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352**

**For Immediate Release**

October 27, 2003

**ANGELO J. GIORDANO PLEADS GUILTY TO FRAUD**

Fort Myers -- Paul I. Perez, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, announced today that Angelo J. Giordano, age 35, and a former resident of Fort Myers, Florida, pleaded guilty to all counts of an Indictment in United States District Court before the Honorable Sheri Polster Chappell, United States Magistrate Judge. Giordano pleaded guilty to Wire Fraud, Bank Fraud, Money Laundering, and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property (ITSP). The Indictment charged that between 1997 and 2001, in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, and elsewhere, Giordano devised and executed two separate and distinct schemes to defraud investors and victims, including First Union National Bank, of money, which Giordano then converted to his own personal use. The first scheme to defraud involved soliciting investors for a purported gambling boat to be operated off the coast of Fort Myers, as well as for the establishment of an internet gambling site. In that scheme, the Indictment charged that Giordano defrauded investors of approximately \$1.6 million. Giordano's second scheme targeted First Union National Bank, with whom Giordano deposited \$519,500 in worthless checks and withdrew the money before the

bank realized the checks were drawn on a Bahamian bank account with a zero balance. The Indictment charged that the Money Laundering and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property offenses were committed with proceeds from the gambling boat and internet gambling site fraud scheme.

On the Wire Fraud count, the defendant faces imprisonment for not more than 5 years without parole. On the Money Laundering and ITSP counts, the defendant faces imprisonment for not more than 10 years without parole, and on the Bank Fraud count, the defendant faces imprisonment for not more than 30 years without parole. On each count, the defendant faces a fine of not more than \$250,000, or alternatively, not more than the greater of twice the gross gain to the defendant or twice the gross loss to any victims, a period of supervised upon release from prison. The defendant also will be required to pay restitution to any victims of the offenses.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey F. Michelland of the Fort Myers Division of the United States Attorney's Office.

/ / / / /